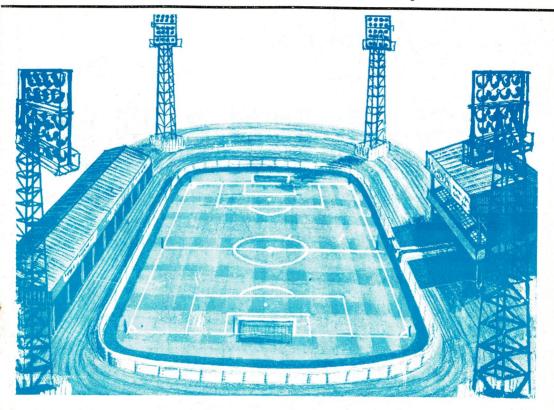
# WIGAN

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME - 15p



FOOTBALL LEAGUE — DIVISION IV

V.

## SCUNTHORPE UNITED

Saturday, 30th September, 1978 — Kick-off 3-0 p.m.

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#### **OUR VISITORS**

Today we welcome to Springfield Park the directors, officials and players of Scunthorpe United. Scunthorpe will be remembered as the club who beat us by a "short head" for admission to the newly increased 3rd Division (N) of the Football League in 1950. After two 'ties', one with Workington, the other with Scunthorpe, we were eventually beaten by the Lincolnshire club.

Since that time our visitors have done quite well for after being for three seasons about mid-way in the League table, in 1954 they began to challenge for the leadership and finished in third place, a position also occupied in 1955. In 1958 came promotion to the 2nd Division and for quite a time they maintained their hard won elevation.

In the FA Cup, Scunthorpe first struck the limelight by drawing away to Sunderland in 1953, although in the previous season they had received Tottenham Hotspur at the Old Show Ground and entertained them with a then record crowd of 22,700. This was however, beaten in January 1954 (the year we drew at Newcastle) when Portsmouth were the 4th Round visitors following Scunthrope's unexpected victory in the replay with Charlton. On this occasion the 'gate' was 23,935.

Scunthorpe were formed in 1912, as Scunthorpe and Lindsey United, and until their election to the Football League were strong members of the Midland League. The club first reached the FA Cup Competition 1st Rd. Proper in 1924-25, and by 1950 had been in the 2nd Rd. proper on many occasions.

Probably one of the greatest players of all times was provided by Scunthorpe, namely Kevin Keegan. Kevin was signed by Liverpool for quite a modest fee in comparison to present values, and has been, and still is, ranked amongst the world's best. Ray Clemence was also connected with Scunthorpe.

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#### A word from the Manager

At the time of going to Press, I don't know the Portsmouth result, but I can assure you all we were pleased to get off the mark at York with a very well deserved win. In fact, if we had won by three or four goals, I don't think that York could have complained. This can only boost the lads' confidence, and all I hope for now is that we can turn it on before our own loyal fans.

#### **ENQUIRIES**

I have quickly realised what money is all about in League Football. I have made numerous enquiries for players in the past two weeks and it has amazed me how much clubs are asking for comparatively inexperienced players. We have also had enquiries for our players, and now that the lads are proving themselves in League Football, I am sure we will get lots more. But at the present time we are trying to build, so it will take extremely good bids before we can contemplate accepting any.

#### SUPPORT

I must congratulate our supporters at York, they were magnificent, and at times I thought we were the home side. I think we are proving what we have said all along, that the potential at Wigan is first class, and the gates for our early games have proved that if we can string a few victories together then we will soon be getting five figure crowds.

Enjoy today's match.

IAN McNEILL, Manager.

#### Forthcoming Fixtures

Next Home Match-

WEDNESDAY, 11th OCTOBER, 1978 — Kick-off 7-30 p.m. WIGAN ATHLETIC v. NATIONAL TEAM OF ZAMBIA

FOOTBALL LEAGUE — DIVISION 4

SATURDAY, 14th OCTOBER, 1978 — Kick-cff 3-0 p.m.

WIGAN ATHLETIC v. DONCASTER ROVERS

LANCASHIRE LEAGUE

Saturday, 7th October 1978 — Kick-off 2-30 p.m.
WIGAN ATHLETIC RESERVES v. ROCHDALE RESERVES



#### Pen Pictures of Scunthorpe United

CRAWFORD, GRAEME (Goalkeeper) 6ft. 1½ins. 13 stone.

Signed from York City for whom he gave four seasons grand service. Graeme is in his second season and experience has helped to stabilize the young defence. Good professional.

PEACOCK, JOHN (Full-back) 5ft. 81 ins. 10 stone 2 lbs. Born Leeds.

Commencing his fifth season with the Club, John played in both full-back positions. Quick to tackle and has pace, good control and likes to attack. Works hard in training.

CZUCZMAN, MIKE (Utility defender) 6ft 2ins. 12 stone. Born Carlisle.

Is equally at home in either centre or full-back position, and can play in midfield. Ron Ashman's first signing on returning to Scunthorpe from rivals Grimsby Town.

OATES, ROBERT (Defender) 5ft. 11½ ins. 11 st. 7 lb. Born Leeds.

Another of United's improving youngsters, works for 90 minutes and covers acres of ground in midfield. Hard tackler and strong in the air. Tremendous prospect.

O'DONNEL, JON (Defender) 5ft. 91 ins. 12 st. 8 lbs. Born Leeds.

Midfield or full-back, signed in July 1977. Has had service with Cambridge United and Hartlepool. A whole hearted player who surprised United supporters with the quality of his play.

KILMORE, KEVIN (Forward) 5ft. 10ins. 10 st. 9 lb. Born Scunthorpe.

Striker with loads of skill and pace. Will be 19 years of age in November. If he can improve his heading ability, he should follow the other Scunthorpe 'K.K.' to stardom. Already proved he can hold his own in the 4th Division.

#### DEERE, STEVE (half-back)

A favourite at the Old Showground. Returned to the club after having a period with Hull City in the Second Division. Now part-time player, but his experience very valuable to United's defence.

GRIMES, VINCE (Forward) Born Scunthorpe.

Former Hull City player who settled down to play very consistently for his hometown team. Very thoughful player. Distribution very good.

#### KAVANAGH, EAMON (Midfield)

Experience midfield player who was dogged by injury last season. After a knee operation, much is expected of this skilful player this term.

#### GIBSON, DAVID (Forward)

Another ex-Hull City performer in his first season with United. Small, but very quick, and after experience in Second Division football should do well for Scunthorpe.

#### WIGG, RON (Forward)

Experienced striker whose form during the later part of 77/78 season helped United to some very good results. Should again cause Fourh Division defences much trouble, with his heading ability.

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#### LATICS LINE

by Nick Duxbury



The enigma of Latics home and away performances continued at York City, where once again only the hardy few who travel to foreign grounds saw Latics approach anywhere near their true potential.

After breaking down the psychological barrier surrounding their first League win by taking Rochdale to the cleaners, the visit of Bradford City was expected to be the next triumph, but look what happened.

With Bradford having been thrashed 6-0 the previous game, a second Latics home win seemed a certainty and a 7,000-plus 'gate' turned up to watch it.

Instead Latics went down 3-1 to again disappoint the Springfield following who have stuck with the club through the early set backs, and then promptly went to Bootham Crescent to destroy York's unbeaten home record, not with a lucky win, but with a dominating display easily worth four not one goal.

Latics tendency to play better away is nothing new. It happened last season in the NPL, but the difference then was marginal compared with the big gulf which now makes home games mediocre and away matches terrific.

So far Latics have been a different side away from Springfield Park—a situation which may infuriate home fans not likely to have much sympathy for the stock excuses.

Everyone knows that visiting teams put defence first and consequently make it harder for Latics to score. Most fans are aware too that playing at home increases the pressure on Latics, who then try too hard to please.

But if Latics are going to progress they must break the home "hoodoo" once and for all. The home side should start favourites for the points every time and Latics must start using home advantage to the full.

The fans have already proved they are prepared to allow Latics a settling-in period. The reward should be a string of good home games at Springfield.

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**Evening Post & Chronicle** 

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#### CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Our first ever Football League away win at York last Saturday gave us two very welcome points, and above all, must have raised team confidence enormously. Our away form has been most encouraging having drawn at Tranmere and Hereford and won at York. The two games lost at Luton and Reading still gave us hope for the future. We feel sure that once a winning note is struck in home games we may be challenging by the end of the season—we hope so.

My directors and I are very sorry about the crowd behaviour after the Bradford City game, but we would like to point out that the street rampage was done by a contingent of Bradford fans over which we have no control once they have left the ground. The Police do a wonderful job but it is inevitable that on occasions small parties of hooligans will break away and create havoc it is a pity they cannot be caught and severely punished. As I have previously said we don't want this "rabble" and we would be very happy if we could

keep them away from the town.

I am sure our own supporters would not think of creating any problems when travelling away. We have had splendid reports from every ground we have visited this season. Last season over 7,000 of our fans travelled to Birmingham without incident. I hope our fans keep up this good conduct as it is an example to every supporter of football throughout the country. Many prominent League clubs are determined to stamp out this nonsense which is spoiling the game. The Arsenal have gone so far as to say they would prefer to play behind closed doors than put up with all this hooliganism.

Out of all the millions of people who watch the game there is only a small minority who misbehave. It does, therefore, seem very unfair when millions of decent people have to suffer by such a few. I am sure that before long the clubs and the police will find an answer to this incredible situation.

Special thanks are extended to F. Grimes Ltd., Standishgate, Wigan, for donating a complete strip, and to Mr. T. H. Bleasdale, of Springfield Road, Wigan, for the donation of medical supplies during the season.

A. HORROCKS, Chairman.

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FOOTBALL LEAGUE — DIVISION 4
SATURDAY, 30th SEPTEMBER, 1978. Kick-off 3-0 p.m.

#### Line-up

Α.	(Blue and White Stripes)	SC	UNIHORPE UNITED
1	JOHN BROWN	1	GRAHAM CRAWFORD
2	KEVIN SMART	2	JON O'DONNELL
3	JOE HINNIGAN	3	JOHN PEACOCK
4	TOMMY GORE	4	BOB OATES
5	NOEL WARD	5	STEVE DEERE
6	NEIL DAVIDS	6	MIKE CZUCZMAN
7	FRANK CORRIGAN	7	VINCE GRIMES
8	JEFF WRIGHT	8	KEVIN KILMORE
9	DEREK BROWNBILL	9	RON WIGG
10	MICKEY MOORE	10	EAMON KAVANAH
11	IAN PURDIE	11	DAVID GIBSON
12	JOHN WILKIE	12	

Referee: Mr. A. SEVILLE (Birmingham)

Linesmen: Mr. E. Hart (Preston) Red Flag; Mr. A. Jones (Wirral) Yellow Flag

#### **TODAY'S REFEREE**

SEVILLE, ALAN (Birmingham). Started refereeing in 1962 and progressed via the Birmingham & District Works A.F.A. and West Midland (Regional) League to the Football League list. Refereed the Birmingham County Senior Cup Final in 1976, and F.A. Vase Semi-final in 1978. He is a married man with two daughters, and works as a toolmaker. His main interest—apart from football—is the Trade Union movement and has been a Lay Officer, District Delegate and Shop Steward in his union. Plays crown green bowls.

#### **OPINION**

by Harold Ashurst

Whatever has happened to Latics so far this season, what with home reverses and some poor away results (although they seem to be picking up a little now) one thing the club can't complain about is the support.



The support of Wigan folk, to the early matches at least, both home and away, has been nothing short of fantastic. Already, and there have only been four home games, 600 people more have watched Latics at home than they did all last season in the Premier League.

And apart from two matches, Tranmere and Rochdale, the home fans have had little to shout about. But another fact I find surprising is that after the home defeats, people are not pulling Wigan to bits. They understand that they need time to find their feet, and not many have uttered those immortal words: "That's the last you'll see of me this season."

This point was driven home last week at York. Despite Latics' poor start, well over 1,000 fans made the trip to Bootham Crescent and how well they were rewarded. The team recorded their first away win in the League and the noise the fans made was tremendous. It was like a cup-tie and I am sure it went a great way to helping the team record that illusive first away win. And with support like that the second win away from home will not be long in coming.

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#### LANCASHIRE FOOTBALL LEAGUE (DIVISION 1)

#### Wigan Athletic Reserves

1978		1979	
August	F-A	January	F-A
18—Blackpool 'A'H	2-1	1—Oldham Ath. Res.	H(Mn.)
25-Southport ResH	1-1	6-Morecambe Res.	Н
		13—Port Vale Res.	A
September—		20-Manchester City 'A'	Н
2—Everton 'A'A	2-1	27-Macclesfield T. Res.	A
9—Chester 'A'H	1-3		
15—Tranmere R, ResA	0-0	February—	
16—		3—Bradford City Res	A
23—Bradford City ResH	5-0	10—Crewe Alex Res.	Н
30—Liverpool 'A'A		17—Manchester Utd. 'A'	A
		24—Oldham Ath. Res.	A
October—			
7—Rochdale ResH		March-	
14—Rochdale ResA		3—Carlisle Res.	А
21—Carlisle Utd. ResH		10—Stockport County 'A'	H
27-Stockport County 'A'A	(Fri.)	17—Bolton Wanderers 'B'	A
		24—Bolton Wanderers 'B'	Н
November—		31-Wrexham Res	A
11—Tranmere R. ResH			
18—Crewe Alex 'A'A		April—	
25—Manchester City 'A'A		7—Manchester Utd. 'A'	H
		13-Southport Res.	A (Fri.)
December—		15-Wrexham Res.	Н
2—Blackpool 'A'A		16	
9-Port Vale ResH		21—Liverpool 'A'	Н
16—Chester 'A'		28—	
23—Macclesfield T. ResH		May—	
30—Morecambe ResA		5—Everton 'A'	Н

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